

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please add the new paragraph on page 1, after the title, "METHODS AND MEANS FOR DELAYING SEED SHATTERING IN PLANTS."

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a U.S. national stage application of International Application No. PCT/EP2004/006888, filed on June 23, 2004, which claims the benefit of European Patent Application No. 03076952.5, filed June 23, 2003. All of the above applications are herein incorporated by reference in their entireties.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Please replace the heading before paragraph [0001] as follows:

Field of the Invention

(i) Field of the Invention

Please replace the heading before paragraph [0002] as follows:

Background

(ii) Description of the Related Art

Please replace the heading before paragraph [00015] as follows:

Summary of the invention

SUMMARY AND OBJECTS OF THE INVENTION

Please replace the heading before paragraph [00024] as follows:

Brief description of the Figures

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES

Please replace the heading before paragraph [00025] as follows:

Detailed description of different embodiments of the invention

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS